GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2030
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2017
Soil Health Mission
Basheer Shri E. T. Mohammed;Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy;Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made several arrangements to facilitate and provide Soil Health Card to the farmers promptly in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the benefits accrued to the farmers therefrom;

(b) the number of beneficiaries thereunder in the country including Maharashtra, so far, State-wise;

(c) the status of State share in the implementation of Soil Health Card in the country; and

(d) whether the desired objectives of the implementation of Soil Health Mission have satisfactorily been achieved in the country and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

â€¡Ã£Ã°Å Ã£Ã¤Ã“Ã£ ??? ????? ?????? Â½Ã£Ã¢Â¨Ã£Ã£ÃŠÃ£Â¾Ã£ Â½Ã£Ã±Ã¢ Ã€Ã£â€¢Â¾Ã£ Â½Ã£Ã¢Â¨Ã£Ã£Ã¨ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has introduced Soil Health Card Scheme in all States/UTs including Maharashtra with an aim to assist State Governments to evaluate fertility in all farm holding and issue soil health cards to farmers regularly in a cycle of 2 years. Soil health cards provide information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Against the target of 2.53 crore soil samples, the States have collected 2.69 Crore samples and tested 2.01 crore samples. And against target of 14 Crore soil health Cards 5.53 Crore cards have been distributed to farmers. State-wise soil samples collected, tested and soil health cards issued to farmers are given at Annexure.

Contdâ€¦.2/-

(c): Under the Soil Health Card Scheme, State share for North Eastern and Himalayan States are 90:10 and for other States 60:40 (Govt of India : State Governments).

(d): Against the target of 2.53 crore soil samples, the States have collected 2.69 Crore samples and tested 2.01 crore samples. And against target of 14 Crore soil health Cards, 5.53 Crore cards have been distributed to farmers. State Governments have shared the case-studies of farmers who have benefitted from the use of information in soil health card and have increased the productivity in cultivation of cereals, pulses, horticulture & oilseeds crops. A study conducted by National Productivity Council (NPC) in 2016 has shown that 84% of farmers have expressed that the information on soil status & nutrients recommendations have proven to be beneficial to them in reducing the cost of cultivation and improving productivity of crops.